GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:18
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2009
OPENING OF FAST TRACK COURTS
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed for setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) in the country;

(b) the number of FTCs opened during each of the iast three years and the current year,State-wise;

(c) the details of specific facilities being provided in these courts;

(d) whether the funds being provided to FPCs are not adequate to meet the recurring and non- recurring expenditure being incurred by such courts; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI H.R.BHARDWAJ)

(a) to (e) A statement is iaid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 18 FOR 13/2/2009 REGARDING OPENING OF FAST TRACK COURTS ASKED BY SHRI JASUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD AND SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR

(a) & (b): The Eleventh Finance Commission recommended providing a grant to enable the States to create 1734 new additional courts for the disposal of long pending cases and provided an amount of Rs.502.90 crore as central assistance to the States for setting up and operating these additional courts known as Fast Track Courts for the period 2000-2005.The State Governments established these Fast Track Courts and as on 31.3.2005,1562 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) were reported operational in the States.Government decided to continue providing central assistance for a further period of five years beyond 31.3.2005 i.e. up to 31.3.2010 in respect of these 1562 FTCs,State-wise details of which are enclosed as Annexure and made a provision of Rs.509 crore for such assistance. It is the responsibility of the State Governments to open any court,including a FTC,in consultation with the High Court under the jurisdiction of which the State falls.The Central Government has not sanctioned assistance for establishing any new FTC during the last`three years and the current year,

(c) to (e): The scheme recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission provided for central assistance being given for construction of court room and for computers and library and also for meeting recurring cost on salaries, stationery, maintenance of vehicle, etc.For the extended period of operation of the FTCs beyond 31.3.2005 Government decided to provide further central assistance for non-recurring expenditure beyond that which had already been provided to the States as per the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission to enable the States to make provision for constructing record rooms,room for Public Prosecutor, facilities for women and disabled in the FTCs and permitted construction over a tota! area of 1600 sq.ft. at a higher unit cost as against the 808 sq. ft. covered under the scheme of the Eleventh Finance Commission,It is for the State Governments to provide further facilities in the FTCs. Additional central assistance to the States for nonrecurring expenditure is at the rate of Rs.8.60 lakh per court to meet the increased cost of construction. An amount of Rs,4.80 lakh per court per annum is provided as central assistance to the States towards the recurring expenditure. Some State Governments have repotted incurring expenditure in excess of the central assistance provided to them.